

The China Mail.

Established February, 1840.

Vol. XL. No. 6538.

號八月七年四十八百八千一英

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, JULY 8, 1884.

日六十月五閏年申甲

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALLEN, 15, Old Bailey, London, E.C. GEORGE STREET & Co., 37, Cornhill. GORDON & GUTHRIE, 10, Leadenhall Street. HENDY & Co., 37, Walbrook. E.C. SAMUEL DRAGON & Co., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street.

PARIS AND EUROPE.—GALLIEN & FRUPE, 36, Rue Lafayette, Paris. NEW YORK.—ANDREW WEND, 21, Park Row.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GUTHRIE, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO AND AMERICAN PORTS generally.—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAYLE & Co., Singapore. C. HEINZEL & Co., Malacca. Messrs A. de MELLO & Co., Svalow, Quich & Co. Amoy, Wilson, Nicholls & Co. Foochow, Hedde & Co. Shanghai, Lane, Crawford & Co. and KELLY & WALSH, Yokohama, Lane, Crawford & Co.

Bank.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, \$5,000,000.
INSTALLED CAPITAL, 2,074,744.75
RESERVE FUND, \$2,500,000.
INSTALLED CAPITAL, 1,563,361.06
RESERVE FUND, \$4,063,361.06

COURT OF DIRECTORS.
Chairman—A. P. McEwen, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—Hon. F. D. Sassoon.
C. D. BODDLE, Esq.
H. L. DALRYMPLE, Esq.
W. H. FORBES, Esq.
M. GUTZ, Esq.
A. GUTZ, Esq.
J. W. KENNEDY, Esq.
A. MOLLER, Esq.
M. E. SASSOON, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER.
Hongkong, THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.
Shanghai, EDWIN CAMERON, Esq.
LONDON BANKERS—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.
INTEREST ALLOWED.
ON Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

For Fixed Deposits—
For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 4 per cent. " "
" 12 " 5 per cent. " "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.
Credits granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.
Drafts granted on London, and the chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.
Offices of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road East.
Hongkong, April 2, 1884. 583

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.

WE have this day Admitted as a PARTNER in our Firm Mr. WILLIAM SNELL ORR.
Our PARTNERS now are Mr. THOMAS DEAS BOYD, Mr. EDWARD NEILSON ROSE, Mr. THOMAS COVILL and Mr. WILLIAM SNELL ORR.

BOYD & Co.
Amoy, 1st July, 1884. 1088

Intimations.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned has this day REMOVED his FURNITURE STORE to the Premises lately occupied by Mr. DUSOZZI, No. 6, Queen's Road Central.

A-TACK,
Furniture Dealer.
Hongkong, June 12, 1884. 972

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

ON and after the 1st June next, the STORE of the Undersigned will be REMOVED to the Premises lately in the occupation of Messrs. Epa da Silva & Co., No. 48, Queen's Road.

H. FOURNIER & Co.,
Storekeepers & Wine Merchants.
Hongkong, May 1, 1884. 737

HOTEL DE L'UNIVERS.

THE Undersigned begs to notify the Public of Hongkong and the Coast Ports that he will RE-OPEN

THE HOTEL DE L'UNIVERS
on the 1st March.

The whole of the ROOMS have been newly FURNISHED throughout, and there are ROOMS suitable for either MARINE COUPLES or SINGLE PERSONS.

The TABLE will be supplied with the BEST of the market can provide.

The WINES and LIQUORS supplied, both at the Bar and Table will be of the VERY BEST BRANDS.

Guests desirous of taking Meals, such as BREAKFAST and DINNER, can have ALL REQUISITE information by applying to

GEORGE STAFFIELD,
Proprietor.
Hongkong, February 28, 1884. 888

WILLIAM DOAN,
SAIL-MAKER & SHIP-CHANDLER,
22, PRINCE STREET.

COTTON DUCKS, HEMP CANNAS,
MANILA ROPE, AMERICAN
OAKUM, LIFE BUOYS,
CORK JACKETS,
&c., &c., &c.

Hongkong, May 1, 1884. 765

Intimations.

HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

COMMENCING on MONDAY, the 30th Instant, and until further Notice, the POWAN will run DAILY between CANTON and MACAO, leaving CANTON at 8 a.m., and MACAO at 6 p.m.

By Order,
T. ARNOLD,
Acting Secretary.
Hongkong, June 24, 1884. 1049

HAIR.

Possessing a vitality of its own, that often outlives the rest of the human system, the hair, if neglected, becomes a source of weakness and disfigurement, and is a sure sign of decay, and a sure sign of decay, and a sure sign of decay.

Ayer's Hair Vigor
Cures the diseases of the scalp and hair, restores the hair to its natural color, and prevents its falling out, and is a sure sign of decay, and a sure sign of decay, and a sure sign of decay.

TOILET LUXURY
Superior to all other preparations for the dressing of the hair, it imparts pliancy, softness, lustre and luxuriance, and is a sure sign of decay, and a sure sign of decay, and a sure sign of decay.

Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.
Sold by all druggists.

Intimations.

HOP SHING & Co.,
ENGINEERS, BOILER MAKERS,
COPPER SMITHS, DRASS & IRON
FOUNDERS, &c.,
WEST POINT IRON WORKS.

HAVING This Day commenced BUSINESS, are ready to undertake Work of the above Descriptions under the Supervision of an EXPERIENCED EUROPEAN.

Orders executed with the utmost despatch and at moderate terms.

24th September, 1883. 611

NOTICE.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS' BANK.

- 1.—The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their premises in Hongkong. Business hours on week-days, 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 1.
- 2.—The Assets of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation will form a direct security for the repayment of sums deposited in the above Bank.
- 3.—Sums less than \$1, or more than \$250, at one time will not be received. No depositor may deposit more than \$1,500 in any one year.
- 4.—Deposits may be on behalf of relations, of trusts, &c., in addition to the depositor's own account.
- 5.—Persons desirous of saving sums less than a dollar may do so by utilizing clean ten-cent stamps to a form to be obtained at the Bank or at the Post Office. When the form is presented with ten clean stamps the depositor will be credited one dollar.
- 6.—Depositors in the Savings' Bank having \$100 or more at their credit may at their option transfer the same to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on fixed deposits for 12 months at 5 per cent. per annum interest.
- 7.—Deposits may be forwarded from the Ports by means of clean Hongkong Postage Stamps of any values.
- 8.—Interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum will be allowed to depositors on their daily balances.
- 9.—Each Depositor will be supplied gratis with a Pass-Book which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their Pass-Books but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, about the beginning of January and beginning of July.
- 10.—Covers containing Pass-Books, Registered Letters containing Stamps or other Remittances, and generally, correspondence in respect to the business of the Bank will, if marked On Hongkong Savings' Bank Business, be forwarded free of Postage or Registration Fees by the various British Post Offices in Hongkong and China.
- 11.—Withdrawals may be made on demand, but the personal attendance of the depositor or his duly appointed agent, and the production of his Pass-Book are necessary.
- 12.—All documents connected with the business of the Savings' Bank are exempt from stamp duty.

For the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, April 25, 1884. 715

FREDERIC ALGAR,
COLONIAL, NEWSPAPER & COMMISSION AGENT,
11, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, LONDON.

THE Colonial Press supplied with News, Papers, Books, Types, Ink, Presses, Papers, Correspondents, Letters, and any European Goods on London terms.

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS.
Colonial Newspapers received at the office are regularly filed for the inspection of Advertisers and the Public.

For Sale.

NEW SEASON'S TEA.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. have Received their Supply of their well-known PRESENT TEA

'THE GUMSHAW MIXTURE'

in 5 and 10 Catty Boxes.

They are now forwarding the first parcel to England, and will be obliged by Orders from those who desire to have Boxes sent to their friends.

PRICE—\$ 7.50 per 5-catty Box, delivered FREE to any address \$12.00 „ 10-catty „ in the United Kingdom.

Hongkong, June 30, 1884. 1083

NOTICE.

SAYLE & Co. beg to inform their Customers and the Public in general that in consequence of the Death of the SENIOR PARTNER, the BUSINESS carried on in HONGKONG will be CLOSED

On or before the 31st day of August Next, AND THE WHOLE OF THE STOCK is now offered at a REDUCTION of 25 per Cent. on the Marked Prices.

Special terms will be made for parcels of Goods over \$100 in value purchased at one time.

All Sales from this date will be for Cash only. Customers are requested to make immediate Payment of Amounts due by them to the late Firm.

SAYLE & Co.,
VICTORIA EXCHANGE, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, June 9, 1884. 951

Intimations.

D. K. GRIFFITH
HAS OPENED HIS
NEW PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIO,
No. 1, Duddell Street,
in rear of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.

THE NEW RAPID DRY PLATES, he now working, are EVERYTHING, and are the Old process and make Portraits of Children easy and certain to secure. The Studio is open daily, and Portraits are taken in any weather at Moderate Charges, while every care is taken to preserve permanency of the prints.

NEW VIEWS OF HONGKONG AND THE COAST PORTS ALWAYS READY.
Hongkong, May 24, 1884. 806

NOTICE.

PERSONS desirous of exchanging Soiled ONE DOLLAR NOTES for CLEAN ONEs may do so at the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION from this date.

For the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, May 30, 1884. 902

1,450 Prizes, \$50,000, 1,450 Prizes.
THE SYDNEY JOCKEY TURF CLUB'S MELBOURNE CUP CONSULTATION—1884.
MEMBERS 21,000—24CH.
To be run on the Flemington Race Course, Melbourne, in November, 1884.

Distribution as follows:
First Prize, 25,000 „ 10 Cash Prizes, 2,000 each, 2,000
Second Prize, 10,000 „ 10 „ 100 „ 100 „ 100 „
Third Prize, 5,000 „ 10 „ 50 „ 50 „ 50 „
Fourth Prize, 2,500 „ 10 „ 25 „ 25 „ 25 „
Fifth Prize, 1,250 „ 10 „ 12 „ 12 „ 12 „
Sixth Prize, 625 „ 10 „ 6 „ 6 „ 6 „
Seventh Prize, 312 „ 10 „ 3 „ 3 „ 3 „
Eighth Prize, 156 „ 10 „ 1 „ 1 „ 1 „
Ninth Prize, 78 „ 10 „ 1 „ 1 „ 1 „
Tenth Prize, 39 „ 10 „ 1 „ 1 „ 1 „
Total, \$50,000

THE SYDNEY JOCKEY TURF CLUB
Beg to inform the Sporting Public of China that they have made arrangements for holding a \$50,000 CONSULTATION on the forthcoming MELBOURNE CUP of 1884, when about 1,450 PRIZES will be awarded to the Fortunate Holders of the winning Numbers. The Highest Prize being \$25,000, and the Lowest £10. Less 15 per cent. for expenses. Winning Numbers can be forwarded for payment or collection to the Manager of any Bank, either in Sydney (N. S. Wales), or Melbourne (Victoria). Drawing will take place under the Committee of Management, about four clear days before the Day of Race. Result Slips are forwarded to all Subscribers. Any Subscriber can be present at the drawing either in person or by proxy, on making application to the Secretary in writing and 1/ for Reply and Receipt. Details as to Conditions to be made payable to JAMES WALLACE, Secretary, S. J. T. C., 209, Oxford Street, Sydney, Australia.

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that by the Provisions made under a BILL of SALE dated the 15th day of April, 1884, made between ABRAHAM ELIEZER ABRAHAM of the one part and the Undersigned of the other part, I have This Day entered and taken possession of the Premises known as the INTERNATIONAL PRINTING OFFICE, No. 3, Hollywood Road, Hongkong, and will transact all Business from henceforth for my own account and in my Name.

Hongkong, dated the 14th day of June, 1884.

J. S. JUDAH.

Intimations.

ROBERT SMITH & Co.'s PATENT ANTI-ROUING COMPOSITION
as supplied to
Her Majesty's Ships; The P. & O. S. N. Co.;
The Douglas Steamship Company;
The Japanese Government.

Sole Agent, China, Japan, and Manila,
EDWARD GEORGE.

Hongkong, January 31, 1884. 188

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given, that by the Provisions made under Two Bills of SALE dated respectively the 3rd day of March, 1883, made respectively between ABRAHAM ELIEZER ABRAHAM of the one part, and ALEXANDER AMADOR ECA DA SILVA of the other part, and the said ABRAHAM ELIEZER ABRAHAM and SOLOMON MAYERS of the other part, we the Undersigned have This Day entered and taken possession of the Premises known as the 'NOVELTY STORE,' in Marine House, No. 17, Queen's Road, Hongkong, and will transact all Business from henceforth on our own account and in our Names.

Dated the 14th day of June, 1884.

A. ECA DA SILVA,
S. MAYERS,
Per pro. N. S. MEYERS.

THE Undersigned have been appointed AGENTS for THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT DOCK AND PATENT SLIP, at Nagasaki, and are prepared to supply Tenders for the Docking, Cleaving, Painting, &c., of Vessels. The Engine Works in connection with the Dockyard are under the direction of experienced ENGINEERS and possess all the necessary appliances for REPAIRS to SHIPS and MACHINERY.

HOLME, RINGER & Co.
Nagasaki, March, 1884. 645

For Sale.

PUBLICATIONS BY J. DYER BAILL.
"CANTONESE MADE EASY"—A Book of SIMILES SENTENCES in the CANTONESE COLLOQUIAL with Free and Literal Translations; and Directions for Rendering English Grammatical Forms into Chinese and vice versa.—Price, \$2. Interleaved Copies, \$2.50.

"We most cordially recommend it."—*China Review*. "Will be found to supply a want long felt by students of Cantonese."—*Daily Press*. "Mr. BAILL'S Notes on Classifiers and Grammar will be found very valuable."—*China Mail*.

"EASY SENTENCES IN THE HAKKA DIALECT WITH A VOCABULARY."—Price, \$1.

"The Sentences given appear to be well arranged."—*China Mail*. "Contains a wide range of subjects."—*Chinese Recorder*, &c. "An extensive Vocabulary."—*Daily Press*.

FOR SALE at Messrs. KELLY & WALSH, W. BREWSTER, and LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.'s, Hongkong; and at Messrs. THURNER & Co.'s, London.

Hongkong, January 25, 1884. 143

FOR SALE.

SIX EUROPEAN HOUSES, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, ALEXANDRA TERRACE.

Apply to
"A. B.,
OFFICE OF THIS PAPER.
Hongkong, May 28, 1884. 685

For Sale.

JUST LANDED AND FOR SALE.

A PARCEL OF NEW SEASON'S FOOCHOW TEA
of the Finest Quality, Specially Selected for the Hongkong Market.

Prices:—
Boxes of 5 Catties... \$ 3.50 each.
" 10 " ... \$ 6.00 " "
" 20 " ... \$12.00 "

ALSO,
An Assortment of BEER from AMERICA. The Celebrated
MILWAUKEE
AND
ST. LOUIS ANHEUSER.

Prices:—
\$1.00 ... per dozen Pints.
\$3.00 ... " " Quarts.

JULIUS MUMM EXTRA DRY CHAMPAGNE.

Prices:—
\$11.00 ... per dozen Pints.
\$20.00 ... " " Quarts.

Orders promptly attended to.

H. ST. CLAIR GREELEY,
HONGKONG HOTEL.

Hongkong, July 7, 1884. 1115

FOR SALE.

A FINE AUSTRALIAN COW in full Milk, with a BULL CALF 10 months old.—Price for the Pair \$300 (dollars).

Apply to
No. 5, FEEDER'S HILL.

Hongkong, June 21, 1884. 1028

CHINESE DICTIONARY IN THE CANTONESE DIALECT.

By E. J. EITEL.

CROWN OCTAVO, PP. 1018.

HONGKONG, 1877-1883.

Part I. A-H... \$2.50

Part II. K-M... \$2.50

Part III. N-T... \$3.00

Part IV. T-Y... \$3.00

A Reduction of ten per cent. will be allowed to purchasers of ten or more copies.

This Standard Work on the Chinese Language, constructed on the basis of Kanghi's Imperial Dictionary, contains all Chinese characters in practical use, and while alphabetically arranged according to the sounds of the whole written Language of China, the Chinese, it gives also the Mandarin pronunciation of all characters explained in the book, so that its usefulness is by no means confined to the Cantonese Dialect, but the work is a practically complete Thesaurus of the whole Written Language of China, ancient and modern, as used all over the Empire, whilst its introductory chapters serve the purposes of a philological guide to the student.

A Supplement, arranged for being bound and used by itself, and containing a List of the Radicals, an Index, and a List of Surnames, will be published and sold separately.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
Hongkong, January 15, 1883. 115

FOR SALE.

JULIUS MUMM & Co.'s CHAMPAGNE.
Quarts... \$20 per 1 doz. Case.
Pints... \$20 per 2 doz.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.
Hongkong, December 20, 1883. 1177

THE REPORT OF THE TRIAL OF LOGAN AT CANTON that appeared in the CHINA MAIL has been printed in FAMILIAR FORM, and is now on Sale.—Price, 30 Cents.

Hongkong, October 3, 1883.

To Let.

TO LET, FURNISHED.
TO LET, FURNISHED, No. 10, SEYMOUR TERRACE.
Apply to
MANAGER,
China Mail Office.

Hongkong, April 15, 1884. 656

TO BE LET.

No. 6, URBAN MOQUE TERRACE.
Possession from 1st May.
Apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

Hongkong, April 5, 1884. 606

TO LET.

No. 25, PRINCE CENTRAL.
Nos. 4, 7 and 8, SEYMOUR TERRACE.
No. 7, GARDEN ROAD (known as 'HARPERVILLE').
No. 44, GRAHAM STREET.

Apply to
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.

Hongkong, July 2, 1884. 1094

GODOWN-TO-LET.

PRINCE EAST AND WANGCHAI ROAD.
For Particulars, apply to
SHEMSEN & Co.

Hongkong, April 25, 1884. 707

TO BE LET.

FURNISHED HOUSE in one of the TERRACES.
For Particulars, address
"J. D. B.,
c/o. China Mail Office.

Hongkong, March 25, 1884. 647

TO LET.

THE PREMISES now occupied by us, No. 11, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

For further Particulars apply to Messrs. RUSSELL & Co.

GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.
Hongkong, August 1, 1883. 726

Notices to Consignees.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE S.S. *Arcticon* having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from Shanghai. Cargo impeding her discharge will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense, and no Fire Insurance will be effected.

Consignees are hereby informed that all Claims must be made immediately, as none will be entertained after the 15th Instant.

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, July 7, 1884. 1110

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES, and all others interested in Cargo from SINGAPORE, SAIGON and HONKOW, by S.S. *Marborough*, are hereby informed that part of the Cargo has been saved by the Undersigned, with whom they will please communicate.

The saved Goods are stored at present in our Godowns.

A. SCHOMBURG & Co.
Hoithow, June 21, 1884. 1055

FROM LONDON, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship *Glenway* having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods—with the exception of Opium—are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Undersigned, whence and/or from the Wharves or Boats delivery may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before 3 p.m. To-day.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 11th Instant will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Hongkong, July 4, 1884. 1106

Shipping.

Steamers.

FOR SYDNEY, MELBOURNE AND ADELAIDE.

(Calling at PORT DARWIN & QUEENSLAND PORTS, and taking through Cargo to NEW ZEALAND, NEW CALEDONIA, FIJI and TASMANIA.)

The Eastern and Australian Steamship Co.'s Steamship *Guthrie*,
Capt. H. CRAIG, will be despatched as above on or about TUESDAY, the 8th July.

Parcels (all of which must be sent to our Office) will be received up to 4 p.m. of the day previous.

Contents and value of the Packages must be declared.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, June 21, 1884. 1030

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

The Co.'s Steamship *Scythia*,
Capt. JACOB, will be despatched as above on or about the 11th Instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, July 5, 1884. 1109

STEAM TO BOMBAY VIA STRAITS.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship *Savarna*
will leave for the above place on SATURDAY, 12th Inst., at 3 p.m.

A. MEYER,
Superintendent.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office,
Hongkong, July 5, 1884. 1114

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

The Steamship *Glenartney*,
Capt. SOMMER, will be despatched as above on or about the 4th July.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.
Hongkong, June 20, 1884. 1021

NOTICE.

has been much injured and 80 feet of the Bathurst canal have been destroyed, which has caused much distress amongst the inhabitants of the eastern portion of the town. It is stated that it has washed the island and cleared the rivers. As the drainage system is very defective, and the stagnant waters very dangerous to health, it is thought that the floods will eventually benefit the public health. The fever so prevalent in the island are due to the defective drainage, and they are said to keep away many would-be visitors from the island. The official statement of the rainfall for 12 hours during the flood says that 11.24 inches fell, being at the rate of nearly one inch per hour, and although this was the average, there can be little doubt that during some hours this rate was doubled. On one estate the camp and the yard of the sugar house formed a lake 16 feet in depth. The police are much pleased for their prompt action in saving life and property. Some damage was done to the shipping, and one schooner, laden with wire, sank at her moorings.

Railways in China.

(Continued.)

It may now be considered as certain that the Chinese Government has at last given way and that it is prepared to sanction on principle the construction of Railways. The event has given rise, as was to be expected, to scenes of rejoicing on all hands, and no doubt it is the most important step in advance that has yet been made in modern China. But now that the first jubilation is over, it may be well to look round and see after all how far we have got. There is a tendency on the part of many to make out that the whole thing is done now that the Government has given its consent, and that it is merely a question of time before we shall see China covered with its trunk lines and its branch lines from Mongolia to Canton. Look, they tell us, how quickly telegraph lines are being run up; in a very short time no town of importance will be outside of the telegraphic circle, and so it will be with Railways. I do not wish to cast a damper on these pleasant prognostications, but there are various circumstances that lead me to take a more pessimistic view of the facts, and indeed to believe that, so far from being within sight of the goal, China has barely yet commenced to run, the Imperial fiat notwithstanding.

In the first place there is all the difference in the world between a telegraph line and a railway, though we usually associate them together, in regard to cost. A line of telegraph can be run up for a mere bagatelle and interferes with nobody. Railways, even now a days, cost in England as much as £20,000 to £100,000 a mile for a single line of rails, and, though in China there is all the advantage of cheap labour and cheap land, there is on the other hand the extra cost of transport and the extra expenditure of skilled European supervision, so that the cost cannot be calculated at less than the former of these sums, which indeed was about what the Woeung experiment cost. The expense of building even the short line from Taku to Tangchow, a distance of say 100 miles, would amount therefore to the sum of nearly a million sterling, while other of the trunk lines which have been spoken of, say from Tientsin to Chinkiang or Peking to Hankow, would cost probably from £10,000,000 to £15,000,000.

The question then arises—where is the money to come from? and I may answer without hesitation certainly not from China. The first short section, which will probably be from Taku to Tientsin, will no doubt be made with native capital. The officials promoting the scheme, Li Hung-chang, Liu Ming-chuan, and others perhaps see their way so far. And I may remark, in passing, it will be of the utmost moment to get a beginning made so far, even if no more progress should be made for years. It will be very much easier to push on further development by degrees when once the working of a line, any line, is an accomplished fact. But for all subsequent extension of any importance foreign capital must be used. Now there is no doubt abundance of foreign capital ready to be employed, the owners of which would be only too glad to lend it to China for such purposes. But it does not follow that they are ready to chuck it at her for the asking. They will naturally say—what security can you offer for the repayment and what interest will you pay in the meantime? There are difficulties of this nature looming ahead which force me to think that we are yet a long way from anything like a general system of railways in China.

Assuming that the Government is not only willing but desirous that railways should forthwith be taken in hand, there are two ways in which they might set about it. They might give concessions to foreign capitalists, or they might themselves borrow money and have the lines constructed as Government property. The only third alternative would be to grant a concession to a purely native company, but this, except for such a short line as that between Tientsin and Peking, it may be taken for granted would be doomed to failure. It would be quite impossible for any native company to borrow no sort of security that would be deemed worth acceptance, and equally impossible for them to raise any considerable capital in the country itself, because, apart from the question of security, the money is positively not to be spared. Of the two feasible plans, the first, namely, the giving a concession to a foreign syndicate, would, I believe, be the most economical. There need be no difficulty about it, provided the Government are willing. The foreign association would require to be guaranteed the working of the line for a certain number

of years at such and such rates of tariff, the Government on the other hand having the right to purchase it at the close of the term at a stipulated price—either par value or otherwise as might be agreed upon. In this way the line would be built under foreign supervision, and without undue waste either in squabbles and commissions, or from mismanagement and incompetence. The country would have the benefit of the improved traffic, the foreign shareholders would get their profits on the working, and the Government would finally become the proprietors of a cheap and well built line. The drawback to all this is that there is no sort of probability that the Chinese Government would consent to this scheme. And doubtless it would give rise to many difficulties of a political nature. The rights of the shareholders as against the Government, the rights of the employees as against the mandarins, and the control over foreigners in the interior, are all questions which would soon bristle with knotty points. There is indeed so little chance of this scheme being even considered that it may be left out of consideration.

The only alternative then is that the Government should itself become the borrower and construct the lines as Government property. This seems easy enough, but then comes the question—can the Government afford to do this? The present rate at which the Chinese Government can borrow is 8 per cent. No doubt if they were to go about it in the right way and many, they might get money on somewhat better terms, but scarcely I believe under 7 per cent. Now it is out of the question that railways in China, all over, will for a great number of years pay 7 per cent. on the outlay. Certain sections will, no doubt; the line from Tientsin to Peking for example might pay 10 per cent. and so might a line from Shanghai to Soochow, but take them all over, including this consideration that the trunk lines will be planned rather with a view to military purposes than for local traffic, and it is, I fear, certain that the Government borrowing money at 7 per cent. or even at 6 per cent. would for a number of years be a loss. In the long run, I doubt not, but country and Government would be gainers, but in the present hand to mouth condition of the latter this cannot but be a consideration. The best we can hope for is that a beginning will be made, and that as matters improve the system will be gradually extended. I should much like to see Canton and Peking in direct communication, but I fear we must wait a considerable time yet.

LUZON SUGAR REFINING COMPANY.

A meeting of the shareholders in the Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited, was held in the office of Messrs Jardine, Matheson & Co., the General Agents of the Company, this forenoon. The Chairman was the Hon. F. D. Sassoon, D. Gillies (Consulting Engineer), Mr. Legge, W. Morgan, A. G. Stokes, J. Bell, Irving, K. McK. Ross, G. S. Taylor and H. C. MacLean.

The notice calling the meeting was read by Mr. McK. Ross.

The Chairman said:—The Company's Articles of Association, gentlemen, make no provision for an interim dividend and the Company being unfortunately in a position now to pay an interim dividend, an amendment should be made, and with this view this resolution, of which notice has been given, has been prepared, and I beg to move that at the end of Rule 117 of the Articles of Association, be added:—Provided always that the General Agents and Consulting Committee may in their absolute discretion at any time or times and from time to time declare and pay to the shareholders an interim dividend of such amount as they shall think fit.

Mr. Stokes seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Chairman:—It will be necessary in order to confirm this resolution to have a meeting 14 days hence, notice of which will be given.

He then said:—I am happy to inform you, gentlemen, with regard to the Luzon Refinery and I take this opportunity of doing so when we have met, that the result of the working up to the 30th of June just equals the expectations that we were forming when I last had the pleasure of addressing you. We have paid off the indebtedness that existed at that time, and we estimate that there will be, after every liability has been met, a sum of about \$32,000 at credit. Of course, this amount is estimated, as we only make up the estimate, and I think that when this resolution which you have just passed has become law, we shall be in a position to declare a dividend of 3 per cent. for the half year. That will absorb \$21,000, and leave a respectable balance of \$11,000. The prospects of the concern are just what they were. I cannot say they are better except inasmuch as we shall have our water supply at a much less cost than before. The means of conveying the sugar to the market are nearly completed, and we shall have the plant in course of time, and with it the prospects will greatly improve we hope. The position is apparently a sound and good one, and I have no doubt that the result which is shown at the end of the half year will be considered satisfactory (Applause).

I shall be happy to answer any question if any gentleman wishes information about any part of the working.

No questions were asked, and the Chairman closed the meeting by saying he was happy to again meet those present a fortnight hence.

our estimated net earnings paid dividend of 4 per cent. on the 30th June. We shall pay an interim dividend of 4 per cent. on the resolution which has just been passed has been made legal, and we expect to carry forward a respectable sum to the further dividend when we present you with our annual accounts next year (Applause). I trust this result will meet with your satisfaction; it is highly satisfactory to myself. It is a result which, under the circumstances, I hardly thought, three months ago, we should attain. I have not mentioned Swatow specially, for my remarks have been intended to apply to it as fully as to any other place. I have no doubt that you will mention that the works at Swatow are in splendid order and fulfilling the purpose for which they were erected to our satisfaction. I shall repeat, gentlemen, that there is not at present room for the works at Swatow of three refineries in this Colony, although I regard it as certain that the China Sugar Refinery has the future before it which it has in the past been working energetically to acquire (Applause). I don't think that there is anything further for me to say. Gentlemen, if there is any question or any information that I have failed to give which you may wish to obtain I shall be very happy to give it to you, if possible. This was all the business, and the meeting adjourned.

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Mr. Stokes seconded, and the motion was carried.

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SUPREME COURT.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.
(Before the Hon. J. Russell, Acting Chief Justice.)

Thursday, July 5.

J. M. GUERREZ v. J. D. HUMPHREYS.—\$400.

Mr. Caldwell appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Wotton for the defendant.

When this case was called this morning, the plaintiff was not present, but his solicitor, Mr. Caldwell, said he understood that this case was not to be the first called.

His Lordship said the case was most emphatically laid off for half past ten this morning, and plaintiff ought to have been present.

Mr. Caldwell asked his Lordship to take another case in which Chinese were concerned, but his Lordship said he could not do that.

Mr. Wotton also objected, and said Mr. Humphreys was present this morning at a very considerable inconvenience to himself. He had received a telegram that his wife was dangerously ill, and he was obliged to go home at once.

His Lordship was sent for by Mr. Caldwell, and the case proceeded.

Mr. Caldwell stated that the plaintiff, Mr. Humphreys, had been sued by the defendant, Mr. Guerrez, for the sum of \$400, on account of a certain transaction.

Mr. Guerrez stated that he had been sued by the plaintiff, Mr. Humphreys, for the sum of \$400, on account of a certain transaction.

His Lordship said that he had been informed that the plaintiff, Mr. Humphreys, was not present, and that the defendant, Mr. Guerrez, was not present.

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was usually one per cent. and this he received from the seller. There was nothing said either at the first meeting or afterwards about witness only receiving his commission if the contract was completed. He sold the ground on the 11th September, 1881, to Mr. Choy Yik Shan, with Mr. Humphreys' consent for 8 cents per acre. The agreement was drawn out at eight o'clock that evening by Mr. Humphreys in Mr. Humphreys' drawing room. Choy Yik Shan was present. The agreement was signed at the time, and either \$1000 or \$2000, bargain money paid. Agreement shown was the one witness signed as a witness for Choy Yik Shan, Mr. Willmott signing as Mr. Humphreys' witness. It was arranged that an agreement should be drawn up by Messrs. Watson, Wotton and Deacon's Office the day after, but he did not know whether that had been done or not. A formal contract was drawn up in Messrs. Deacon, Wotton and Deacon's Office on the 21st October.

Mr. Caldwell asked Mr. Wotton to produce the original agreement. Mr. Wotton said he did not have the agreement.

Witness then produced what he said was a copy of the agreement.

Mr. Wotton said there was only a portion of the agreement there.

Witness said Mr. Humphreys' press book would show the agreement.

After examining the document further, Mr. Wotton said it was a correct press copy of the original, but he objected to its admission as evidence of an agreement on the ground of its being antedated.

His Lordship said the document could not be admitted as an agreement if it was antedated; if it was not stamped it was worthless.

Mr. Caldwell argued that it could be admitted as evidence that an agreement had been made. He had called upon the other side to produce the original, and they had not done so, and under these circumstances he thought it should be admitted.

Witness continuing, said about the same time he had not sold any other ground to Choy Yik Shan. He had bought relations with him, sold and bought property for him. Choy Yik Shan had the reputation of being perfectly solvent, and was well known at the time. At the time he sold the property, he had an account at the Hongkong Dispensary for things supplied to himself. In 1883 application was made for payment of the bill by Mr. Woolnough. On the 23rd August, 1883, witness wrote Mr. Woolnough, saying that he was sorry that he was not able to pay the bill. This was during Mr. Humphreys' absence.

The letter was read. Plaintiff admitted the account for the dispensary was correct, but he said before he paid it he was writing to see what Mr. Humphreys had to say with regard to it. He was not going to ask for the full amount, although he had a perfect right to do so, but he would settle up the bill as soon as Mr. Humphreys was heard from. Mr. Woolnough applied again. On Mr. Humphreys' return, witness examined the bill, and found it correct. He then wrote Mr. Humphreys about his commission, and enclosed the bill. The letter was read. In reply to that, Mr. Humphreys wrote witness, saying that he was sorry that he was not able to pay the bill. He also expressed a hope that Mr. Humphreys would not be offended, but the proper thing would be to let the judge decide. Mr. Humphreys sent back a note saying he had put the matter into the hands of a solicitor. In May this year, before witness knew of Mr. Humphreys' return, Mr. Woolnough went in the bill again, and wrote saying witness claim for brokerage on the sale of inland lot No. 609 amounting to nothing, as the sale was never completed. In reply to this witness wrote back on the 15th May, saying that he was sorry that he was not able to pay the bill. He also expressed a hope that Mr. Humphreys would not be offended, but the proper thing would be to let the judge decide. Mr. Humphreys sent back a note saying he had put the matter into the hands of a solicitor. In May this year, before witness knew of Mr. Humphreys' return, Mr. Woolnough went in the bill again, and wrote saying witness claim for brokerage on the sale of inland lot No. 609 amounting to nothing, as the sale was never completed. In reply to this witness wrote back on the 15th May, saying that he was sorry that he was not able to pay the bill. He also expressed a hope that Mr. Humphreys would not be offended, but the proper thing would be to let the judge decide. Mr. Humphreys sent back a note saying he had put the matter into the hands of a solicitor.

Mr. Caldwell submitted that such an arrangement as Mr. Humphreys had stated he had made was an unusual one, and Mr. Guedes denied that it had been made.

After some remarks from Mr. Wotton, His Lordship said the best guide in a case where there was directly conflicting evidence was the correspondence. He thought Mr. Guedes would have asked for payment of his claim earlier than he did if he knew that he was entitled to it; he did not appear to have mentioned it until he received a notice from Mr. Guedes. Why should Mr. Guedes have waited? Mr. Humphreys to fix off the amount due to him if he knew that he was entitled to one per cent. on the purchase money; or why should he wait for Mr. Humphreys' decision? He (plaintiff) knew that he was entitled to one per cent. on the purchase money.

After some further remarks his Lordship gave judgment for defendant, with costs. Defendant having paid the \$20 into Court, plaintiff could take it out.

GUERREZ v. HUMPHREYS.—\$800.

Mr. Caldwell said he appeared for the plaintiff.

Defendant, who was recently connected with the Novelty Store, did not enter an appearance.

Mr. Caldwell said the claim was for \$800, balance due to plaintiff from defendant, on account of a certain transaction.

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